

Summary of Public Input: “Seat” Bicycle Boulevard- SECOND MEETING

I. Background

In March 2015, a corridor analysis was conducted on the Seat route (Knox Road) to identify potential improvements based on projected costs. On May 13, 2015 a public meeting was held to receive public input regarding what types of improvements residents would like to see on the designated route. Comments were received through an online survey as well as through emails and phone calls.

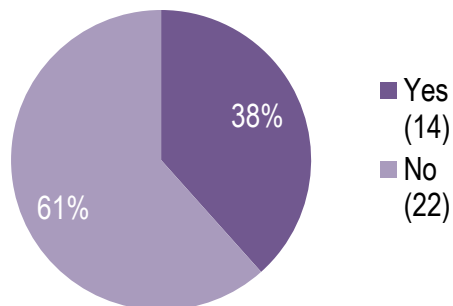
Staff reviewed the input and on August 12, 2015 a second public meeting was held to present a draft plan. Twenty-four people signed in at the public meeting and provided feedback. A second online survey was conducted from August 12 through August 26, 2015. Thirty-nine people provided their input online and eight emailed comments to the City Council and/or staff.

II. Online Survey results

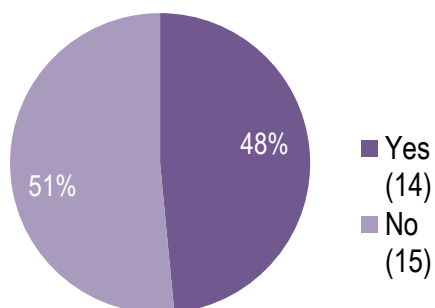
Thirty-nine people responded to the survey online, though not all respondents answered every question.

Respondents were asked whether they **support adding new signalized crossings** at each of the following intersections:

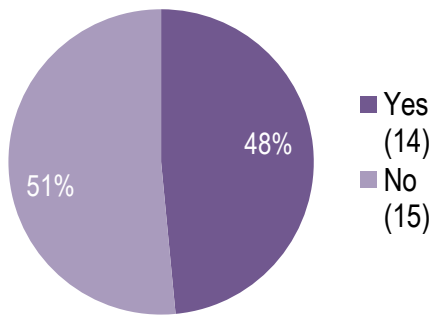
McClintock Drive and LaVieve Lane



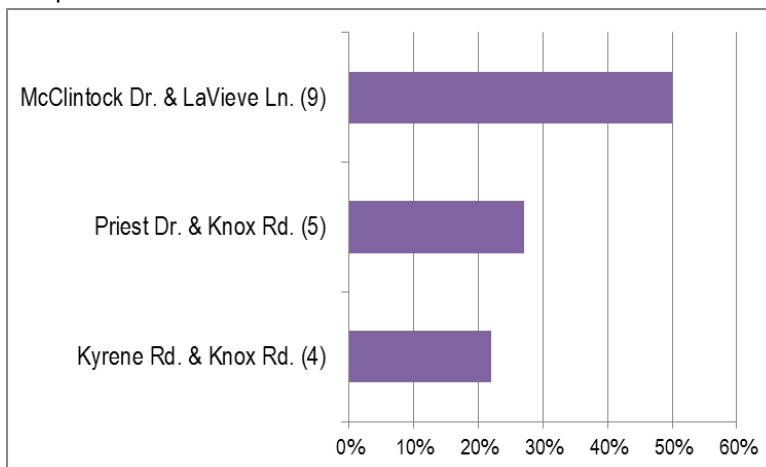
Kyrene Road and Knox Road



Priest Drive and Knox Road



Respondents were also asked to select which intersection represents the **highest priority** for completion:



Lastly, survey respondents were asked to provide any **additional thoughts** regarding the “Seat” Bicycle Boulevard. Below are the responses provided in the online survey.

1. A way to safely cross railroad tracks and major streets (Priest, Ray) would improve the lives of cyclists and pedestrians.
2. I attended the public meeting today, thanks for arranging it. I am an avid cyclist and appreciate the work Tempe is doing to encourage more bike use. However, given the small budget available (I understand its approx \$50K per route), I would use the money to contribute to signalized bike crossings across main roads where most needed. Adding signs and pavement markings to a few roads would be nice but is not a major benefit. I find my way easily enough using Google maps in highlighted bike route mode. I would like to recommend traffic signals at W.Carver and Kyrene. Between Elliot and Warner, a 1 mile stretch on Kyrene there are no lights or other means to safely cross Kyrene Road.
3. BikeIT begins much needed improvements that will enhance quality of life in neighborhoods and the city.

4. I am opposed to the addition of any traffic signals to Tempe's major streets. Specifically, I am opposed to the proposed signal at McClintock and LaVieve Lane.
5. Please no new traffic lights on McClintock. It makes no sense to have stop lights at every corner. My kids rode bikes to school and never had a problem crossing at existing lights. A new one is just not needed.
6. We do NOT want it passing through our neighborhood! PERIOD! We have nice wide streets to ride bikes, we do NOT need a public thoroughfare
7. I oppose any plan to put a stoplight at McClintock and Lavieve. It would cause more inconveniences than solutions for the Alta Mira neighborhood.
8. If "Seat" is so obnoxious to Circle G residents, just delete that part of the route east of the research park path. Biggest issue is crossings over major arteries like Warner or McClintock.
9. Part of the route will go down Lakeshore where we have ridiculously high speed bumps. I do not want to see cyclists using the sidewalk to avoid the speed bumps. The sidewalk would be dangerous. Additionally, esthetically, to only cut into part of the speed bumps and not all of them down Lakeshore will be a negative. And we can expect problems with people speeding up around the speed bumps that have shorter sides...please look at this issue and help our neighborhood.
10. If you are going to use any sharrows; make sure they are applied CENTERED IN THE EFFECTIVE LANE and don't merely meet the MUTCD's minimum placement standards. It is a shame there are so many 1 mile blocks in S Tempe with NO MARKED XWALKs for an entire mile
11. School (Kyrene del Cielo Elementary and Corona High) drop-off traffic in the a.m. is a safety risk for bikers. If the intent is to increase usage by children, the Elementary, at a minimum, should support a crossing guard in addition to the light at LaVieve and McClintock. Cars trying to beat a light are a hazard.
12. I am not in favor of the proposed bike route passing through Circle G Ranches 4. This is a quiet neighborhood community. There is NO destination here to bike to, no schools, no commercial properties, no businesses-only private residences which are accessible by bicycle from Warner. The path from Alta Mira which would provide access to Circle G was designed and designated as walking path for children to access school buses. The parents in the neighborhood do NOT under any circumstance want strangers from outside the neighborhood to be using the same narrow sidewalk. When the path was planned it was understood to be for the use of neighborhood children walking. The path was approved by the City of Tempe for that reason only. There was no mention of bicycle use from the outside. This is a betrayal of trust as far as the neighbors are concerned. Our children's safety is the number one priority. Our neighborhood facilities are private and are paid for by the homeowners, not the City of Tempe. This includes our large park, picnic and meeting space, basketball, racquetball and tennis courts, baseball diamond and playground equipment. Discussions with my neighbors finds no support for this proposal.
13. THIS IS TOTALLY UN ACCEPTABLE I HAVE NEVER BEEN NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL THERE IS NO PURPOSE TO CUT THRU ARE NEIGHBORHOOD IT TAKES YOU NO WERE OF INTEREST.

14. The neighborhood does not need or want this. Definitely do not want the leg through Circle G. There is no public destination here, our parks are privately owned and it does not make sense to run bike traffic along the main horse road to the arena. The two paths intersect at our privately owned park and horse arena, where there are often trailers and horses parked and which has only one exit to and from the arena, which is onto Caroline LN. Future reflector leg running down Fairfield is also not wanted. This is our main entrance and it will encourage cut through vehicle traffic to put signage that makes it appear that this is a thoroughfare. It is consensus in our neighborhood that we do not want this, especially any signage leading additional traffic into our quiet neighborhood. It is our belief that these signs will not just direct bikes but will also direct cut through vehicle traffic, as your increased plans for higher density jams up our major streets like Warner Rd. As a concerned citizen and also the President of Circle G Ranches IV, I ask that you not continue this underfunded, unwanted waste of tax payer dollars. The three traffic lights, you stated would cost \$175,000 as of today, so that is over half million, yet there is only a budget for \$100,000. We are not in support of increased bonding for this project and the related taxes that would come with this, and we do not believe that the city council should vote to continue a project for which they have no designated source of funding. This project is not needed, nor does the leg into Circle G fit with the purpose of the project. The path through which you intend to put bikes into Circle G is merely a walking path in an easement. It was never intended to be used for vehicular traffic. It is an ADA compliant sidewalk, not designed for heavy bike usage. When it was put in, we were told it would be so kids could walk to the bus stop which would be just west of Circle G. It is my understanding from the comments I have heard, that neither our Alta Mira neighbors, nor us want to teach strangers how to get quickly in and out of a school bus area. Those living here know how to find our way through our neighborhood. We know our community, as do our neighbors in Alta Mira, Alta Mirada and Corona Del Sol. Additionally, as block watch Captain, we have been successful in alleviating crime, because we know who belongs in the area, but if there is a steady stream of increased bike traffic, it will be come much harder to meet the goals of an effective block watch program. Lastly, there has been no impact study relative to the use of this as a pathway, and its impact on our private park. How will you let people know that this is not intended to be a destination as they would be trespassing should they use our facilities? How will you compensate for increased trash, potential graffiti, wear and tear on our private property, etc.? Just say "no"...
15. I strongly oppose the "Seat" Route to go through my neighborhood; this will invite people to cut through our neighborhood. BIKE ROUTES through neighborhoods are generally not a good idea.
16. The home owners in Alta Mira and Circle G, that I've been in contact with are not in favor of these bike routes coming through our neighborhood streets. Inviting strangers to freely come and go in our neighborhoods only adds to the congestion on our streets as we back out onto our streets and drive down our streets. Also, there is concern with young children playing outside, with their safety and our privacy in general. Most residents prefer less traffic, of course. It seems bike riders (of which I and my husband are bike riders) are given priority over our motorists (who are the large percentage on our roadways and neighborhoods) The flow of traffic, especially when adding extra traffic lights can be hindered. My husband and I have found our way through neighborhoods on our own without signage and sharrows. Tempe already has great paths, especially on the western canal. We don't need to spend our tax dollars in this unwanted and unnecessary way. Mostly to sum up my comments; this infringes on the homeowners rights. Will our comments really make a difference if there are enough people opposed to this and when it personally could affect our daily lives. We should get to decide what happens in front of our homes. I've lived in my home happily for 31 years.

17. Unfortunately I was unaware of the changes being considered until recently. I was wondering if a study was done on what this bike boulevard will do to the property value of the homes along these routes especially those closest to the intersections where a traffic signal is being installed. Has the city informed the homeowners that the value of their homes is likely to go down and is the city prepared to reimburse them for the lost value? If a signal is necessary it must be done in a manner that minimizes the impact to the homes nearest the intersection, therefore, it cannot be a signal that is used to control the flow of traffic similar to the signals at major intersections not can it be similar to the signal at the Western Canal and McClintock. A signal similar to the pedestrian crossing in Chandler on Arizona Ave about 1/2 mile south of Chandler Blvd. should be considered. Also, traffic calming measures along the bike route should be added to discourage an increase in vehicular traffic and speed. Traffic calming measures should also be added on the main thoroughfares like McClintock, Kyrene and Priest as the traffic approaches the bike route crossings. Safety and property value need be the main concerns. Thank-you for your consideration and time.
18. All of the cities in the SE Valley say they want to be bike friendly. Until now this has been lip service only as this area is one of the most dangerous places I have ever ridden a bike. Many of the issues could be made better easily if the cities truly wanted to be bike friendly. I hope Tempe's plan is executed and provides an example to Chandler, Gilbert and Mesa
19. I am not in favor of having a seat route for La Vieja Lane. This would bring people into the neighborhood who don't belong in it as well as the path would take them next to an elementary school which they would not normally go next to if this was not the designated bike path. Also it will increase bike traffic on a residential street which could cause potential accidents with people backing out of their drive way.
20. I work at the District offices at MCCC. Have biked from home in Peoria. Would be great if I could ride along university to the east parking structure of sky harbor, catch a people mover to the transit light rail which could safely take me to downtown phoenix where I could ride central north to the bike path heading west. would not have to ride into mill ave area to catch light rail
21. "The BIKEiT bike system is not just a bike boulevard. It's about so much more than that. It's about being able to go from one neighborhood to another in some way other than by car. I love the idea of a multimodal pathway network around Tempe, more than what BIKEiT implies. The Kyrene Canal Handlebar Route could be the Kyrene Canal JOGiT Multi-use Path. The Country Club Way Reflector Route could be the Country Club Way WALKiT Parkway. The Western Canal Brake Route could be the Western Canal RUNiT Multi-use Path. The Knox Seat Route could be the "Cielo Mariposa SAFEROUTETOSCHOOLiT" Route. While it is true that people using more than 3 miles of these routes at one time will most likely be using a bike. However people using less than 2 miles of these routes at a time will more likely be running or walking their dog than riding a bike. These pathways are more than about creating low stress bike routes. They're about taking a pleasant stroll to a restaurant for dinner. They're about jogging a few neighborhoods down the road and maybe running into friends that you know that direction. They're about having your kids scooter to the city park across the road. They're about having a safe route that your kids can bike to school. The real benefit of the multi-use pathway system is connecting neighborhoods and strengthening community. It's not about bikes. I look forward to the SAFEROUTETOSCHOOLJOGWALKRUNBIKEiT system being implemented.

22. I am in favor of anything that will improve the ability to bike in Tempe. I do not have a priority for the particular routes listed. However, I would very much like to see the Reflector Route increase in priority. The overpass on Country Club and US-60 is highly used and there is already the start of infrastructure to support a bike route along Country Club Way. I definitely would use that route to get to Tempe Marketplace and to work in South Scottsdale. I would have participated earlier but am just becoming aware of the BIKEiT program.
23. I live in a nice residential area. Please do make it a public thoroughfare and encourage strangers to travel through it. Those of us that chose to live in South Tempe neighborhoods did so for a reason and you are about to take that from us. The peace, tranquility and ambiance of our neighborhood will be shattered as improvements are made to facilitate the bike path and the general public is paraded through our once quiet, private streets. Do not ruin our neighborhood by making it a city ordained transportation route.
24. Do not want it to go on Caroline Lane in the Circle G Ranches.
25. I am strongly opposed to the Bicycle Boulevards being developed to run throughout neighborhoods in the city. Although this idea was developed with some community input, I wonder how many Tempe community members would choose for one of these bike paths to be right in front of their own house, or in front of their own child's school as these routes create numerous safety issues for residents, schools, and bikers. The proposed bike paths funnel and enlarge bike traffic in neighborhoods, instead of keeping it evenly distributed as it is now. This plan would disrupt many residents as they back out of driveways facing increased bike traffic. Not only would it disrupt residents' peace, but it would put bikers at an increased risk for injury as people driving cars currently in low traffic areas may suddenly be inundated with bike traffic. Additionally, increased bike traffic in select neighborhood areas would interfere with the safety of children at play in parks/residences adjacent to these routes, along with the people, pets, and strollers walking/jogging on these routes/sidewalks. Putting a designated bike path along streets with an elementary school also presents additional safety concerns for the school faculty and the children who attend those schools. As our elected officials, please respect the desires of those you represent. Do not create additional safety issues in our neighborhoods and schools. Say "No" to bike boulevards through Tempe neighborhoods.
26. I find it disturbing that our city government is trying to bring strangers into our peaceful neighborhood. The route would go past our park where children are playing and cause great concern for the families backing their cars out of their driveways. There is no purpose in bringing bikers to our neighborhood which leads to nowhere. The people of our community do not want people gawking at our homes or families. Please vote no on this matter.
27. I do not support the "seat route" through the Alta Mira neighborhood. A path already exists along McClintock Road and connects to the intersection at McClintock and Warner Road. An additional light at LaVie and McClintock will restrict traffic unnecessarily.
28. So the bike lanes along all of our major streets, PLUS now the canals and the signals installed there, just aren't enough? Teacher pay 50th in America. ASU has the highest tuition increase of ANY major University. And some "feel good" legislator(s), with nothing better to do, want to put in more traffic lights for bikers. Put me down for: no.

29. I do not want a lot of unnecessary traffic through our neighborhood. We have had bicycles and other items stolen out of our garage. We have a bike path just north of us at the canal that goes west to East between Elliot and Guadalupe. This is not a wise expense of our tax paying dollars.
30. I am 100% against this bike path going through LaVieve Lane. This bike path could be redirected to Warner road and therefore avoid added traffic to an otherwise quiet neighborhood. I understand that Tempe wants to add certain features to become more desirable but I refuse to have it be at the cost of my children's safety and the safety of my neighbors children. With the widened sidewalk on Warner or the better distanced option through Caroline from the light on Warner, there are better and far more efficient ways to get a path. Thank you.
31. To whom this may concern, my family and I purchased our first home three and a half years ago on La Vieve Lane. We loved it for its location, its proximity to great schools and the fact it had a park down the street for when we start our family. I am a cyclist and coming from Tucson, I can appreciate a more bicycle-friendly Tempe. However, bike paths through residential neighborhoods add no value for bicyclists. It adds unnecessary distance and with residential traffic it will add by people skirting the traffic light. It will also increase the likelihood of accidents including residents backing out of their driveways. Where we lived in Tucson, a bicycle path was added on our street so we can speak from experience. It took all that was great about our neighborhood away from it. Putting out our trash cans became a tenet of debate with cyclists. We could no longer park in front of our residence or have friends do so. Trash from random food wrappers, cigarette butts and whatever else can fall off a rider/bike was found. There are other ways to sell Tempe as a great place to live. I ask you on behalf of my child, my neighbors and their children. Let us keep La Vieve safe without a bike path and keep Alta Mira one of the best places to live in Tempe.
32. As mentioned in a previous comment, Caroline Lane east of McClintock is too narrow to accommodate both bike lanes and residential traffic. Also, the street seems to be able to handle the existing bicycle traffic, which is normal for this neighborhood, without adding any additional improvements. Bike paths would also necessitate curbside parking restrictions, thereby creating unnecessary burdens for residents. A light at McClintock and LaVieve is not only unnecessary due to the light at Warner, but would only serve to disrupt the traffic flow along McClintock. The expense ~ unfunded, at that ~ would be a complete waste of money. It seems that this plan would completely disrupt the character of what is supposed to be a quiet residential neighborhood, inconveniencing many for the benefit of a few. We strongly urge you to scrap this project, which would appear to be the shortsighted plan of those with no regard to either fiscal responsibility or the maintenance of a quality of life we now enjoy and expect in our neighborhood.
33. I live on Caroline Lane and do not want this bicycle route going down my residential street. While I support biking, I feel the biker concentration on this proposed path will harm the residential feel of our neighborhood. This invites people into our neighborhood who do not live here, including our private horse arena and park. There are also safety issues with so many driveways on a bicycle route. The bike route needs to go down Warner road, not La Vieve and Caroline. There is a well-designed bike lane on Warner already. Weekend bike clubs travel in large numbers at speeds of 30 mph, making walking and driveway backing dangerous for everyone. The city needs to be frugal with their money. This is not needed at this time. There is no need to disrupt this quiet Circle G neighborhood I have lived in for ten years. I oppose this bike boulevard.
34. It has just come to my attention that the City of Tempe is developing a ""bicycle boulevard"" which will run through our neighborhood. Your proposal online indicates routing people directly through Circle G Ranches and in front of my home. We have made a significant investment in our home

and chose to live in Circle G because we wanted privacy, hence the large lot we live on. However, you are planning to route bikers directly in front of our front yard. As it is, we have non-neighborhood people who bike and walk in our neighborhood, this makes backing out of our driveway a concern as these bikers do not stay on the appropriate side of the street and some ride at very fast speeds. I do not want to encourage more bikers to ride in front of my home. This is a private community with a private and often used horse arena (the Circle G residents twice yearly allow the Tempe Mounted officers a several day use of our arena for training purposes with their horses) on Caroline (your propped route). Our horse owners walk their horses to the arena and do not need more people riding by, especially in groups and riding fast, spooking their horses as they try to safely lead them to the arena. A spooked horse will run and several years ago one was fatally injured when it ran. We have an HOA which collects substantial fees from the homeowners to maintain our sidewalks, the horse arena, the park and children's play area and the tennis courts. Even without the proposed bike path we already have people who come to the neighborhood and who use our facilities and leave trash behind, etc. This bike path will encourage more of this type of activity. This Tempe Circle G Community has several times voted on gating our community. We have chosen instead to keep our front entrance open. Now you are considering funneling people through our neighborhood which opens us to privacy intrusions and crime opportunities. As a resident of Tempe, I am opposed to spending our money for this frivolous and intrusive seat route. Surely, this money could be better spent on things the City really needs such as investing in programs to help Tempe students who don't have breakfast before they leave for school. I believe the City should focus the "extra" money (possibly \$100,000) you want to spend on this bike route on Tempe children who do not have meals or even bikes instead of wasting money and resources on this endeavor which lowers our rights as homeowners to enjoy our homes and creates additional traffic in the street in front of my home. I do not want the City to encourage more riders in our neighborhood.

III. Email Feedback

Date: August 13, 2015 at 11:28:39 AM MST

Subject: Tempe Bike Boulevards

Last night was the second public meeting that the Transportation Department has held on this subject and specifically regarding the South Tempe, Corona area. This area voiced overall a need for more bike paths, bike lanes and bike signage for our area during the extended process of Character Areas. Now the transportation folks have come up with a great plan to meet these needs. Our specific route would be the Seat Boulevard. In keeping with the plan they have developed new very attractive signage to give some direction along the Boulevard. These signs would be mounted on existing sign post and would be used mainly to direct a rider through a directional change in the Boulevard.

At the meeting last night we had to listen to a very negative diatribe from a person who wants our area to have nothing to do with this project. This person's fear is that we will be attracting too many bike riders, create danger for our kids near the street, increase our taxes, etc.

Kudos to Eric and Julian that they could calmly listen, answer the complaints and assure that these concerns were being considered. I expect that this person who is on the Board of one of our HOA,s will try to mount a negative campaign to present to Mayor and Council. Let's hope that more rational thinking outweighs this effort. Tempe is a nationally recognized bicycling community that needs to continue that model with the very program now being developed. I support the Seat Boulevard Route and ask Mayor and Council to do the same. Regardless of a few negative concerns expressed, this is a

great plan which is supported by the majority of folks in South Tempe.
Regards,

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:40 PM

Subject: Public transportation meeting 8/12/15

subject: TEMPE BIKE BOULEVARDS

I was truly appalled to hear the many negatives coming from people who live in my zip code 85284 regarding the subject of adding signage and support to bicyclists in our city. The complaints seemed to be about "not wanting their community to change the culture of their neighborhood". These few complainers are unwelcome to and against people on bikes riding through their neighborhoods, and they most certainly do not want any signage on "their" streets that would encourage it. Surely these complainers should consider a gated community with streets locked and barred from the folks who enjoy biking on our public city streets.

I, for one, am proud to live in a bike friendly city as well as the bike friendly community of Warner Ranch. My husband and friends also enjoy riding our bicycles through surrounding neighborhoods and along the excellent bike paths in Tempe and Chandler. The tasteful directional signage displayed at the meeting last night and would make biking safer and more enjoyable for all bicyclists.

Bravo to the transportation committee members at the meeting for keeping their cool during the delivery of these negative comments, which are not shared by the majority of neighborhoods in South Tempe. We need to maintain our city's nationally recognized status and promote bicycling with the Seat Boulevard Route.

Thank you for the email. Below are responses to your concerns.

The bike boulevard concept emerged from community input as part of our ongoing transportation improvements, and as bicycling and walking has become more popular in Tempe. The City Council dedicated funds to support the program and the system of planned bicycle boulevards went through a public review as part of the Tempe Transportation Master Plan (www.tempe.gov/transportationplan). The intention with this bicycle boulevard system is to enhance walking and biking opportunities in the neighborhoods, and to integrate in with the space available, not disrupt the area. All of the proposed bike boulevard improvements are in concert with the Corona/South Tempe Character Area Plan, which was designed in conjunction with your neighborhood.

1.) The neighbors were not aware of the May 13 meeting and only a few are aware of the meeting tonight. The neighbors I have spoken with are opposed to the plan for the following reasons: Door hangers were sent to all homes a quarter mile north and south of the proposed bike boulevard (from Warner Road south to the Chandler border between Loop 101 and I-10) prior to the May 13 and Aug. 12 meetings. In addition, social media posts, a press release and information in the Parks and Rec./Connecting Tempe newsletter were included to promote the Aug. 12 public meeting. All neighborhood chairpersons will receive follow up emails and links to the project website to encourage further comment. An online comment form is available until Aug. 26 at www.tempe.gov/bikeit.

2.) This is a quiet neighborhood community. There is NO destination here to bike to, no schools, no commercial properties, no businesses-only private residences which are accessible by bicycle from Warner. Along the entire proposed Seat bike boulevard route there are several neighborhood parks and schools including Goodwin Park, Hanger Park, Harelson Park, Corona Del Sol High School and Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School. With these other destinations along the proposed route, the bike boulevard would allow people

the opportunity to get to Price Road and possibly continue their trip south to Chandler and other destinations. Additionally, there are linkages to other bikeways along canal paths like the Kyrene Canal (already built) and the Highline Canal (construction to start in 2016).

3.) The path from Alta Mira which would provide access to Circle G was designed and designated as walking path for children to access school buses. The parents in the neighborhood **do NOT under any circumstance want strangers from outside the neighborhood to be using the same narrow sidewalk.** When the path was planned it was understood to be for the use was for neighborhood children walking. The path was approved by the City of Tempe for that reason only. There was no mention of bicycle use from the outside. This is a betrayal of trust as far as the neighbors are concerned. Our children's safety is the number one priority. The purpose of the Seat bike boulevard is to connect people (mostly area residents) who commute (along with recreational riders) within and from the neighborhood to other bike boulevards. These bike boulevards are intended to make riding a bike to a neighborhood school or park easier for those people living in the neighborhoods near the route. Bicycles are currently also permitted to ride on sidewalks with the exception of Mill Avenue in downtown Tempe. We do not anticipate a dramatic increase in ridership from outside your neighborhood to use these bike boulevards, which are already signed as bike routes in many places along the proposed route and have been for the past 20 years. These bike routes are also identified in the Tempe bike map. We would simply be switching out the signage in your area to brand the bike route as the Seat route.

3.) This is a horse neighborhood property. The City of Tempe Mounted Division uses our arena for a practice facility. We are pleased to have them use our PRIVATE PARK. Both riders from the Tempe Police Dept. and neighbors use the adjacent streets to park their trailers and equipment to load and unload their horses. The trailers from the horses, landscaper, and other commercial uses create enough of a hazard to our neighborhood. The neighbors use the streets to exercise and walk their horses. While neighbor bicyclists are welcome to use our streets, bicycle traffic from the outside changes the uses of our streets and creates a host of problems. The neighbors object to additional traffic from outside bicyclists. Again, we do not anticipate an increase in people entering your neighborhood to use these bike boulevards, which are already signed as bike routes in many places along the proposed. We would simply be switching out the signage in your area to brand the bike route as the Seat route. The integration of the signage into the existing streets system is intended to be an additional amenity, not to displace horses, cars or pedestrians.

4.) Our neighborhood facilities are private and are paid for by the homeowners, not the City of Tempe. This includes our large park, picnic and meeting space, basketball, racquetball and tennis courts, baseball diamond and playground equipment. We do not want to have outsiders use these and do we want to play police to supervise it. Outsiders bring in traffic, trash and use of the area by non neighbors. It is inevitable. We do not want bikes creating paths on the grass either. our common space is closed at night. Who will tell that to the bikers? Staff understands your concerns regarding the private (non-public) areas within your neighborhood. While there is no guarantee that there will not be new bicyclists on the route, as mentioned before, there is no indication that the new signage would result in non-neighborhood users.

5.) The main concern is traffic and a flow of non neighbors through the streets at all times of the day and the problems it brings. The neighbors here pay very high property tax to ensure the property values of their homes. Many pay more than \$1000- per month to ensure the character and dignity of this neighborhood. We all work diligently to maintain the entire neighborhood to be a shining star of the City. The bike boulevard is not a good fit for us and we will fit it mightily. There is a current bicycle path down Warner which provides access to metro buses, ASU Research Park, schools and commercial buildings. The intention with this bicycle boulevard system is to enhance walking and biking opportunities in the

neighborhoods, and to integrate in with the space available, not disrupt the area. The goal of adding the signage along the streets is to guide your neighbors along the Seat route to connect them to other parts of south Tempe.

I was able to copy Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Woods and CM Schapira on this email, but the addresses for L Spears and A Thornton are not Tempe email addresses. You may want to forward this response to them separately. Please feel free to contact me should you have any other concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Sue Taaffe

8/15/15:

Dear Laura,

Thank you for the info. you sent me on the proposed South Tempe Bike program. The presentations and discussions put forth by your team were done very professionally.

I live in a neighborhood btw. Knox and Warner and approximately 300 yards north of the proposed Knox Bike route. I believe this program is unnecessary even in view of its modest cost (w/o new traffic signals) because it doesn't significantly increase bike ridership while lowering car traffic in South Tempe. While it may only affect me marginally because of where my home is situated I believe it is an impingement on the homeowners who are located directly or close by the proposed route. If this will alleviate bike safety concerns I understand but no one put forth any facts or figures to show that this program will help bike safety in South Tempe.

Some argued that opposition to this rule is elitist and implied they are forward thinking, one attendee even said the program was "progressive". I reject this thought process and point that the public has free and ready access to all of our neighborhood streets and I am not for restrictions on bikers on my street. As a matter of fact my cul-de-sac street is a major connector street for bikers, joggers, walkers, families with children, etc. In my opinion I encourage it and find it charming from a community point of view but encouraging heavier passing bicycle traffic doesn't seem to be helpful, especially for those that live on the proposed route.

If you think about the existing traffic signal at Knox and Rural connects 2 square miles of residential neighborhoods to a number of superb City and school parks. For some it is never enough. . .they insist on more at the expense of their neighbors.

When it comes to spending half a million on traffic signals I just flat out think it's a waste of money. If you're out for exercise isn't the additional footsteps to cross at intersections adequate. In state where red light violations is a serious problem why encourage more just for the minor inconvenience of a few bikers. I don't have any empirical evidence but with the concerns of sustainability locally and nationally doesn't more cars sitting around at lights create more wasted energy? There will always be people crossing major roads such as Kyrene and McClintock. . .I see people do it all the time just 50 yards from an intersection. . . you can't fix stupid as much as government tries. Can't traffic signal \$ be put to better use such as constructing right turn lanes and bus stop turn-ins? I have a larger objection to the traffic signals than I do to designated bike paths.

I know I sound negative but this South Tempe bike route just seems like a solution searching for a problem.

Sincerely,

A South Tempe Resident

Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2015 3:09 PM

Subject: Tempe Bike Questions: Seat route; Road signage related to lane changes on McClintock

Hello,

I was unable to attend the 12Aug mtg regarding the Seat Route improvements. I reviewed the previous comments (online) and submitted a few new ones. It wasn't clear if questions in the survey would be responded to. Could you clarify, is Tempe planning to remove the closure on Knox west of Cielo Elementary and east of Corona High? We live on Knox, east of the closure, and would be very concerned if Knox was opened to more automobile through-traffic.

FYI - we are not unopposed to a bike lane on Knox, east of the closure. (We do not know our neighbor's stance).

A separate bike lane question: why doesn't the new bike lane on north-bound McClintock, just south of Belle de Mar, have a 'lane reduction' sign? It goes from 3 lanes to 2, w/ little visibility since there is the incline after the pedestrian crossing light. Although I applaud the city's effort to increase our bike-friendliness, this change w/o signage is a safety hazard.

Thank you,

Thanks for writing the City about the Seat Route Bicycle Boulevard and McClintock Drive bike lanes. I wanted to provide you with some responses below, and please let me know if there are further questions.

1. The road closure, and sidewalk/path access, that is just west of Cielo Elementary will not change, other than some wayfinding signage. That road closure will remain as is; there will not be vehicular traffic allowed to pass through.
2. There is no plan to install bike lanes on Knox, between the road closure and Rural Road. That roadway will also remain as it is today.
3. We are still finalizing the street configurations and new bike lanes for McClintock Drive; thanks for your suggestion about some informational signage in the area. Traffic Engineering will look at the area, and review your idea, to see how it correlates with what is required in our national design standards for bike and roadway projects.
4. Your comments about the Seat Route will go into our public record and be provided to the City Council, along with the rest of the public feedback on this project.

Again, thanks for taking the time to contact the City and let me know if you have further questions.

Eric

8/21/15:

Thank you for the email. Below are responses to your comments, which will be include in the public record for the City Council to review. Please feel free to email me if you have any other questions.

1. Circle G has only two entry/exit roads, Caroline and Fairfield. Both can be quite busy at times especially on weekends. The Seat Route will place bike traffic on Caroline adding further congestion to this exit point. Plans are to build a second bike route using Fairfield Rd, the only other exit from Circle G; again creating increased traffic on a road that enters Warner Rd and can already be congested. I believe the planners have completely missed these points. This congestion will not be welcomed by either bikers or residents. The purpose of the Seat bike boulevard is to connect people (mostly neighborhood residents) who commute (along with recreational riders) within and from the neighborhood to other bike boulevards. These bike boulevards are intended to make riding a bike to a neighborhood school or park easier for those people living in the neighborhoods near the route. We do not anticipate a dramatic increase in ridership from outside your neighborhood to use these bike boulevards, which are already signed as bike routes in many places along the proposed route and have been for the past 20 years. These bike routes are also identified in the Tempe bike map. We would simply be switching out the signage in your area to brand the bike route as the Seat route. In addition, Circle G is near Cielo Elementary School and Corona Del Sol High School, which are near the Seat Route. This provides an opportunity for students in the Circle G neighborhood to ride their bicycles to school.
2. Sue Taaffe, in a communication to one of our board members, has pointed out that the bike path will avail a number of parks to the bikers along the route. Circle G has a large park that is privately owned and maintained by the residents at no small expense. One can project that bikers will want to use this park and its playground facilities. The cost of maintenance and liability will make this prospect unacceptable creating friction within the community. We understand your concerns regarding the private (non-public) areas within your neighborhood. While there is no guarantee that there will not be new bicyclists on the route, there is no indication that the new signage would result in non-neighborhood users. The intention with this bicycle boulevard system is to enhance walking and biking opportunities in the neighborhoods, and to integrate in with the space available, not disrupt the area. The goal of adding the signage along the streets is to guide your neighbors along the Seat route to connect them to other parts of south Tempe.
3. I asked at the August 12th meeting what provision have been made to monitor the effect of the bike route on the Circle G community with respect to traffic and possible crime. There is apparently none planned. I believe there should be plans. If this bike boulevard is approved by Council for implementation, we can certainly go out and do pre and post bicycle counts. We can also ask Tempe Bicycle Action Group (TBAG) to include the Seat route in their annual bicycle counts.

Sincerely,

Sue Taaffe

8/25/15:

Subject: BIKEiT

Dear Ms.Taaffe:

I am writing to you with a concern that was brought to my attention today from other members of the City of Tempe Community. As I understand the City of Tempe is putting in Bicycle Boulevards throughout the city. One of those boulevards - Seat Route- runs through the "Circle G" neighborhood, which is horse property. I do not agree that this is a good place to put a bike route. By putting this boulevard through the neighborhood puts the neighborhood at risk for higher crime as it has in my neighborhood. It is also inappropriate since horses and bicycle do not go hand in hand. Horses are easily spooked and one wrong turn of a bicyclist could cause harm to the horse back rider as well as the

bicyclist. The plan states that it is connecting parks and recreation areas together throughout the city, well in that neighborhood there isn't a "public" park maintained by the City of Tempe with City funds, it is privately owned and should stay that way. As a citizen of Tempe, I don't see the reason to spend money frivolously on signage, etc. in a neighborhood that wasn't designed for the purposes of bicycle traffic. That community never had bicycle signage or bicycle routes for at least 30 years why should we start now when there are more dangers and cons than pros. If bicycles are invited into that neighborhood where are the people to ride their horses safely and without disrupting traffic, on the major streets? Please do not disturb the Circle G neighborhood that was strictly designed for horses. The bicycle routes through the neighborhoods are disruptive and do invite unwelcomed guests.

Sincerely,

Thank you for the email. Your comments will be included in the public record regarding this project.

The bike boulevard concept emerged from community input as part of our ongoing transportation improvements, and as bicycling and walking has become more popular in Tempe. The City Council dedicated funds to support the program and the system of planned bicycle boulevards went through a public review as part of the Tempe Transportation Master Plan (www.tempe.gov/transportationplan). The intention with this bicycle boulevard system is to enhance walking and biking opportunities in the neighborhoods, and to integrate in with the space available, not disrupt the area. All of the proposed bike boulevard improvements are in concert with the Corona/South Tempe Character Area Plan, which was designed in conjunction with your neighborhood.

Staff understands your concerns regarding the private (non-public) areas within your neighborhood. While there is no guarantee that there will not be new bicyclists on the route, there is no indication that the signage would result in a dramatic increase in non-neighborhood users. The Seat route is already signed as a bike route in many places along the proposed Seat route and has been for the past 20 years, including being published in the Tempe bike map.

Please feel free to email me if you have any other questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Sue Taaffe

8/25/15:

I live in a nice residential area. Please do make it a public thoroughfare and encourage strangers to travel through it. Those of us that chose to live in South Tempe neighborhoods did so for a reason and you are about to take that from us. The peace, tranquility and ambiance of our neighborhood will be shattered as improvements are made to facilitate the bike path and the general public is paraded through our once quiet, private streets. Do not ruin our neighborhood by making it a city ordained transportation route.

Thank you for the comment. Your comment will be included in the official public record.

The bike boulevard concept emerged from community input as part of our ongoing transportation improvements, and as bicycling and walking has become more popular in Tempe. The City Council dedicated funds to support the program and the system of planned bicycle boulevards went through a public review as part of the Tempe Transportation Master Plan (www.tempe.gov/transportationplan). The intention with this bicycle boulevard system is to enhance walking and biking opportunities in the neighborhoods, and to integrate in with the space available, not

disrupt the area. All of the proposed bike boulevard improvements are in concert with the Corona/South Tempe Character Area Plan, which was designed in conjunction with your neighborhood.

Currently, bicyclists are permitted to ride their bicycles on the public streets in south Tempe. Please let me know if you have another questions.

Sue Taaffe

Yes, they are permitted, but they are not encouraged and directed through the neighborhood as they would be with your plan. This will increase traffic and create safety issues.

I would also like to note that I did not receive any of the public notices that were supposed to be distributed to homes in the vicinity of the bike path. These notices had information about the plan and dates/times of public meetings. I am directly on the bike path and had to hear from a neighbor about this plan after the meeting on August 12th. I find this unacceptable.

Door hangers were sent (delivered by Freedom Marketing) to all homes a quarter mile north and south of the proposed bike boulevard (from Warner Road south to the Chandler border between Loop 101 and I-10) prior to the May 13 and Aug. 12 meetings. In addition, social media posts, a press release and information in the Parks and Rec./Connecting Tempe newsletter were included to promote the Aug. 12 public meeting. All neighborhood chairpersons along the proposed route also received follow up emails and links to the project website to encourage further comment. An online comment form is available until tomorrow at www.tempe.gov/bikeit. I apologize if for some reason you did not receive or see the door hanger.

Thanks.

Sue

Hi -

Since we heard from a number of residents that there were homes that did not receive door hanger notification of the "Seat" meeting, our office requested that Freedom Marketing, (the company the city of Tempe uses to print and deliver door hangers for public meetings) provide us with a GPS clicker report. The company uses a GPS tracking system to verify the addresses that they deliver door hangers to. Today we received their report which the attached image. The report states that Freedom Marketing was unable to deliver to two areas: the 44 homes in the Las Estadas gated community and the gated community just south of Warner Rd. and east of Priest Dr. Our contact stated that the crews were unable to access these areas. The order we placed with the company requested that door hangers be delivered to all businesses, apartment complexes, condos and single family homes from I-10 to Loop 101 between Warner Rd. and the border with city of Chandler.

Unfortunately, we were not advised of their inability to access these areas during the delivery period. We regret that these areas were missed and will be asking for verification reports to be prepared as part of the routine procedure in the future. In addition, we will continue to use all outreach tools (social media, emails to neighborhood chairs and HOA presidents, previous meeting attendees, press releases and listserv notifications) in an attempt to get the word out.

The City Council will be reviewing all the public input received when making their final decision regarding the "Seat" Route. All the input submitted will likely be posted to the City's website at www.tempe.gov/BikeIt by Sept. 4. The Council will discuss this item at the Oct. 1 City Council Work Study Session.

Thank you for your interest and please feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Laura Kajfez